

Summary of Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Response to Citizen Nominations

The citizen nomination process helps DEQ find areas to collect water quality samples. The process also helps DEQ to respond to local water quality concerns. DEQ receives nominations from the public from October 1 to December 31 of each year. After DEQ receives the nominations, the review process takes several months to complete. If the nomination meets certain criteria, DEQ will agree to sample at or near the nominated site.

The table below shows the number of nominations submitted to DEQ for the past six years. Along with this number, the table shows the number and rate of nominations that received follow-up monitoring by DEQ. For the purpose of the table, the definition of a waterbody is as body of water such as a stream, lake, or river. The 2006 was an average year with DEQ receiving 22 nominations.

Nomination Year	Number Of Waterbodies Nominated	Nominations That Received Follow-up Monitoring By DEQ	Ratio Of Follow-up Monitoring By DEQ
2000	25	11	44.00%
2001	27	16	59.26%
2002	18	16	88.89%
2003	15	10	66.66%
2004	3	3	100.00%
2005	48	31	64.58%
2006	22	16	72.73%

Below is a table that summarizes the number and type of nomination requests received in 2006. The table also shows the actual number of monitoring stations that DEQ will establish. The higher number of stations to nominations is due to DEQ monitoring in multiple areas in the same waterbody.

Station Type	Total Number of Nominations	Number of Nominations Selected for DEQ Follow-up Monitoring	Number of DEQ Follow-up Stations
Ambient (water chemistry, E. coli)	15	10	13
Biological (benthic macroinvertebrates)	7	6	7

Reasons for Nominations

Land development was the main reason for six of the 15 ambient nominations. The remaining nine nominations from other concerns such as nearby sewage treatment plant upgrades and farming practices.

Land development was the basis for all seven of the biological nominations. Data from citizen volunteer groups played an important role in helping DEQ to select sample sites.